



General Assembly

## ***Amendment***

***January Session, 2015***

**LCO No. 9094**



Offered by:

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To: Subst. Senate Bill No. **1099**

File No. 641

Cal. No. 361

***"AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A  
COMMISSION TO DEVELOP A VISION AND STRATEGIC MASTER  
PLAN FOR THE CONNECTICUT PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM."***

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a  
4 Planning Commission for Education to develop and recommend the  
5 implementation of a strategic master plan for public education in  
6 Connecticut.

7 (1) The commission shall consist of the following voting members:  
8 (A) Five members appointed by the speaker of the House of  
9 Representatives, one of whom shall be a current or former  
10 superintendent of schools for a rural school district, one of whom shall  
11 be a certified teacher who is currently employed as a teacher in a

12 public school or has retired from teaching in a public school not less  
13 than one year prior to appointment, one of whom shall be a person  
14 with knowledge and experience with students with special education  
15 needs, one of whom shall be a person with knowledge and experience  
16 in systems building and one of whom shall be a representative of an  
17 organization representing boards of education; (B) five members  
18 appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom  
19 shall be a current or former superintendent of schools for an urban  
20 school district in which a charter school and interdistrict magnet  
21 school are located, one of whom shall be a certified teacher who is  
22 currently employed as a teacher in a public school or has retired from  
23 teaching in a public school not less than one year prior to appointment,  
24 one of whom shall be a person with knowledge and experience  
25 regarding early childhood education, one of whom shall be a person  
26 with knowledge and experience in civil rights relating to equity, access  
27 and the quality of education and one of whom shall be a person with  
28 knowledge and experience regarding adult education; (C) two  
29 members appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
30 Representatives, one of whom shall be a current or former  
31 superintendent of schools for a regional school district and one of  
32 whom shall be a student who is enrolled in a public high school in the  
33 state; (D) two members appointed by the majority leader of the Senate,  
34 one of whom shall be a current or former superintendent of schools for  
35 a suburban school district and one of whom shall be a parent or  
36 guardian of a student who is enrolled in a public school in the state; (E)  
37 two members appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
38 Representatives, one of whom shall be a representative of a state-wide  
39 business organization and one of whom shall be a scholar who has  
40 experience and expertise in the field of education from  
41 prekindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive; (F) two members  
42 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom shall be  
43 an entrepreneur and one of whom shall be a scholar who has  
44 experience and expertise in the field of higher education; (G) nine  
45 members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a certified  
46 teacher who is currently employed as a teacher in a public school or

47 has retired from teaching in a public school not less than one year prior  
48 to appointment, one of whom shall be a parent or guardian of a  
49 student who is enrolled in a public school in the state, one of whom  
50 shall be a person with knowledge and experience in civil rights  
51 relating to equity, access and the quality of education and one of  
52 whom shall be a person with knowledge and experience in  
53 academically advanced curriculum development; (H) the  
54 Commissioner of Education; and (I) the Commissioner of Early  
55 Childhood. The commission membership shall reflect the state's  
56 geographic, racial and ethnic diversity.

57 (2) The following persons shall serve as ex-officio nonvoting  
58 members on the commission: (A) The Secretary of the Office of Policy  
59 and Management, or the secretary's designee; (B) one representative  
60 from each of the following associations or federations, designated by  
61 the association or federation: The Connecticut Association of Boards of  
62 Education, the Connecticut Association of Public School  
63 Superintendents, the Connecticut Federation of School Administrators,  
64 the Connecticut Education Association and the American Federation of  
65 Teachers-Connecticut; (C) the chairpersons and ranking members of  
66 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
67 cognizance of matters relating to education; (D) the chairpersons of the  
68 achievement gap task force established pursuant to section 10-16mm of  
69 the general statutes; and (E) the executive director of the Commission  
70 on Children, or the executive director's designee.

71 (3) The commission shall elect cochairpersons of the commission at  
72 its first meeting. Any vacancies shall be filled by the appointing  
73 authority. The commission members shall serve without compensation  
74 except for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their  
75 duties. The commission may seek the advice and participation of any  
76 person, organization or state or federal agency it deems necessary to  
77 carry out the provisions of this section. The commission may, within  
78 available appropriations, retain consultants to assist in carrying out its  
79 duties. The commission may receive funds from any public or private

80 sources to carry out its activities.

81 (b) The commission shall articulate a clear vision and mission for  
82 developing a sustainable, equitable and high-quality public education  
83 system that coordinates the components of education reform, clarifies  
84 how such components of education reform work together and  
85 provides every child with access to an educational experience that  
86 meets such child's needs. The commission shall develop and  
87 recommend the implementation of a strategic master plan to carry out  
88 such vision and mission.

89 (1) In developing the strategic master plan, the commission shall  
90 address the following issues: (A) How to better organize the state  
91 public education system to streamline various and disparate mandates,  
92 initiatives and reforms that may compete with the articulated vision  
93 and mission; (B) the manner in which the public education system  
94 utilizes data and supports to inform and improve the provision of  
95 education in the state; (C) the extent to which the accountability  
96 system assesses the most worthy outcomes of public education; and  
97 (D) the identification and analysis of the most significant factors that  
98 effect and support the most worthy outcomes of public education for  
99 all students, including, but not limited to, poverty, socioeconomic and  
100 racial isolation, language barriers and parental engagement in a  
101 student's education.

102 (2) In addressing the issues described in subdivision (1) of this  
103 subsection, the commission shall consider: (A) What are the most  
104 worthy outcomes of public education and what means can be taken to  
105 achieve such outcomes; (B) the extent to which the public education  
106 system prepares students to meet the challenges of work, citizenship  
107 and life upon graduation; (C) strategies to develop state-wide  
108 education leadership goals and to enhance education leadership in  
109 conformance with such goals; (D) ways to ensure effective  
110 communication and partnership between school districts and the  
111 families of children who attend public school in such school district,  
112 with particular focus on diversity; (E) ways to share best practices

113 within the public education system, including, but not limited to,  
114 learning across methodologies, models and structures of educational  
115 excellence; (F) what innovations are necessary to excel in both  
116 competitiveness and character; (G) the extent to which the public  
117 education system empowers students and educators to excel, innovate  
118 and build on strengths; and (H) best practices that ensure high quality  
119 instruction and promote continuous systemic improvement.

120 (3) The commission shall also examine and recommend changes to  
121 funding policies, practices and accountability in order to (A) align such  
122 funding policies, practices and accountability with the strategic master  
123 plan, (B) ensure that all school districts receive equitable funding from  
124 the state, and (C) determine and recommend measures to promote the  
125 adoption of ways in which resources can be most effectively utilized.

126 (c) (1) Not later than April 15, 2016, the commission shall submit a  
127 preliminary report on the development of the strategic master plan  
128 together with any recommendations for appropriate legislation and  
129 funding to the Governor and the joint standing committees of the  
130 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education  
131 and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a  
132 of the general statutes.

133 (2) Not later than February 15, 2017, the commission shall submit  
134 the strategic master plan, including specific goals and benchmarks for  
135 implementation, together with any recommendations for appropriate  
136 legislation and funding to the Governor and the joint standing  
137 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
138 relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the  
139 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The commission  
140 shall terminate on the date that it submits the strategic master plan or  
141 February 15, 2017, whichever is later."

<p>This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:</p>
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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